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Patent and Trademark Office

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

PM82/1122

DELLETT AND WALTERS
310 S W FOURTH AVENUE STE 1101
PORTLAND OR 97204

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
08/925,920	09/09/97	015	STRIMBU, G	3634 11/22/99
First Named Applicant	REEVES, 35 USC 154(b) term ext. = 0 Days.			

TITLE OF INVENTION WHEEL RETENTION DEVICE WITH EXTERNALLY ROTATABLE MULTI-FACETED RETENTION RING (AS AMENDED)

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEE DUE	DATE DUE
3 S-307	211-020.000	E65	UTILITY	YES	\$605.00	02/22/00

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.

THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.

HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
- B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or
- B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

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Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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08/925,920 09/09/97 REEVES

M S-307

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EXAMINER

STRIMBU, G

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3634

DATE MAILED:

13
11/22/99

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Notice of Allowability

Application No.
08/925,920

Applicant(s)
M. Reeves

Examiner
Gregory J. Stimbu

Group Art Unit
3634



All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.

☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment of October 15, 1999 and the tele. int. of November 16, 1999

☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8, 11, 13-15, and 18-20

☐ The drawings filed on _____ are acceptable.

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office action. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

☐ Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION, PTO-152, which discloses that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.

☒ Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS

☐ because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.

☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, attached hereto or to Paper No. 4.

☒ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed on Mar 4, 1999, which has been approved by the examiner.

☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the reverse side of the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any response to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

☒ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

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Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with James H. Walters on November 16, 1999.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the abstract:

line 6, inserted --is-- following "cavity"

line 8, inserted --discretely-- following "to"

line 11, inserted --The retention ring is discretely rotatable about the base through the

engagement of an outer generally polygonal surface of the base and an inner generally polygonal surface of the retention ring. -- following "rack."

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In the claims:

changed claims 1-8, 11, 13-15 and 18-20 to:

1. A wheel retention device comprising:

D2 a base for mounting on a rack, said base including an open cavity which is sized to receive a portion of a wheel therein; and

a retention ring mounted on said base, wherein said retention ring is rotatable generally around said base so as to block an opening in said base leading to said open cavity for securing the wheel relative to said base,

wherein said base includes an outer generally polygonal surface comprising a plurality of facets and said retention ring includes an inner generally polygonal surface comprising a plurality of facets, said outer surface being in engagement with said inner surface to accurately and discretely position said retention ring with respect to said base.

D3 2. A wheel retention device according to claim 1 wherein the portion of the wheel comprises a portion of a rim and a portion of a tire of a bicycle wheel.

D4 3. A wheel retention device according to claim 1 wherein said retention ring is rotatable generally around said outer surface of said base.

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D5
4. A wheel retention device according to claim 3 wherein said retention ring extends circumferentially approximately 270 degrees around said outer surface of said base.

D6
5. A wheel retention device according to claim 3 wherein said outer surface of said base comprises a bottom of a groove formed in said base, said retention ring being mounted within said groove.

D7
6. A wheel retention device according to claim 5 wherein said facets define linear segments, wherein a first one of said linear segments of one of said base and said retention ring is at an angle of approximately 20 degrees relative to a second, adjacent one of said linear segments of said one of said base and said retention ring.

D8
7. A wheel retention device according to claim 1 wherein said base includes a shoulder in the open cavity for mounting said base on the rack.

D9
8. A rack for securing a wheeled vehicle therein, comprising:
a first wheel well for receiving a first wheel of the wheeled vehicle therein;
a second wheel well operatively connected to said first wheel well, said second wheel well comprising a channel; and

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a wheel retention device including a base which is mounted on said channel, said base including an open cavity wherein said open cavity is sized to receive a portion of a second wheel of the wheeled vehicle therein, a retention ring mounted on said base, said retention ring being rotatable generally around said base so as to block an opening in said base leading to said open cavity for securing the second wheel relative to said base and said second wheel well;

wherein said base includes an outer generally polygonal surface comprising a plurality of facets and said retention ring includes an inner generally polygonal surface comprising a plurality of facets, said outer surface being in engagement with said inner surface to accurately and discretely position said retention ring with respect to said base.

D10

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11. A rack according to claim 8 wherein said outer surface of said base comprises a bottom of a groove formed in said base, said retention ring being mounted within said groove.

D11

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13. A rack according to claim 8 wherein said retention ring extends circumferentially approximately 270 degrees about a central axis of said base.

D12

11

14. A rack according to claim 8 wherein said base includes a shoulder in the open cavity which facilitates the mounting of said base on said channel.

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12

15. A method of securing a wheeled vehicle to a rack comprising the steps of:

placing a first wheel of the wheeled vehicle in a first wheel well of the rack;

mounting a wheel retention device to a second wheel well of the rack, the wheel retention device including a base having an open cavity and a retention member, said retention member being rotatable generally around said base so as to block an opening in said base, wherein said base includes an outer generally polygonal surface comprising a plurality of facets and said retention member includes an inner generally polygonal surface comprising a plurality of facets, said outer surface being in engagement with said inner surface to accurately and discretely position said retention member with respect to said base;

placing a second wheel of the wheeled vehicle in the second wheel well of the rack and in the open cavity of the base; and

rotating said retention member with respect to said base to block the opening in the base and retain the second wheel to said rack.

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16. A method of securing a wheeled vehicle to a rack according to claim 15 wherein the base includes a periphery and a groove formed in said periphery, said retention member being mounted within said groove.

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17. A method of securing a wheeled vehicle to a rack according to claim 16 wherein said groove includes said outer surface of said base.

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04 15
20. A method of securing a wheeled vehicle to a rack according to claim 12 wherein said retention member extends circumferentially approximately 270 degrees about a central axis of said base.

✓ canceled claims 9, 10, 12, 16, 17 and 21-23

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record, absent applicant's own disclosure, fails to teach the entire combination of elements set forth in the claimed invention. Specifically, the prior art of record fails to teach a wheel retention device comprising a base including an outer generally polygonal surface comprising a plurality of facets and a retention ring including an inner generally polygonal surface comprising a plurality of facets, the outer surface being in engagement with the inner surface to accurately and discretely position the retention ring with respect to the base.

The application having been allowed, formal drawings are required in response to this Office Action.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

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fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gregory J. Strimbu whose telephone number is (703) 305-3979. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 305-3597. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-2168.

11/16/99

GJS

GJS



Daniel P. Stodola
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 3600